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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/538,749

06/14/2005

Alessandro Scardovi

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EXAMINER

STEPHENS, JUANITA DIONNE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2853

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

07/31/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/538,749

Applicant(s)

SCARDOVI ET AL.

Examiner

Juanita D. Stephens

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Application filed 6/14/2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 June 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/2/2005, 6/14/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. Acknowledgement is made of the Information Disclosure Statement filed 11/2/2005 and 6/14/2005, which is a duplicate.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bhaskar et al. (US 5,635,968).

Bhaskar et al. discloses an ink jet printhead comprising: 1) a driving and encoding circuit (Figure 19) having a grid-like structure including a plurality of inputs (A1-A13) (col 15, Ins 49-50) and a plurality of selecting elements (transistor Q1- Q14) (col 15, Ins 62-63), 2) a plurality of actuator elements (resistors) associated with said driving and encoding circuit suitable for being selectively addressed and commanded by said selecting elements in response to at least one command signal received through said plurality of inputs, so as to cause the ejection of ink droplets from said ink jet printhead, 3) a least one identifying element (fuses F1-F13) of said inkjet printhead (col

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15, Ins 50-57), 4) wherein each of said identifying elements of said ink jet printhead is associated with a corresponding selecting element of said driving and encoding circuit (col 15, Ins 55-57) to be selectively addressed and identified in response to at least one corresponding identifying signal received through said plurality of inputs (col 15, In 50-col 16, In 3), 5) wherein said plurality of actuating elements (resistors) and each said identifying elements (fuses) are suitable for being sounded through at least one corresponding command signal received through said plurality of inputs, during a preliminary checking step, the purpose of which is to identify said ink jet printhead and to confirm the correct operation of said actuating elements (col 15, In 50-col 16, In 3; col 16, In 66-col 17, In 5), 6) wherein said actuating elements are resistor and said inkjet printhead is of the thermal (col 4, Ins 51-52), bubble type for activating the ejection of said ink droplets (col 5, Ins 28-34), 7) wherein the identifying elements occupy positions of the grid-like structure that are located in correspondence with nozzles not used for printing (col 17, Ins 5-23), and 8) wherein the driving and encoding circuit (Figure 19) having a grid-like structure for selectively addressing and commanding each of said actuating elements, said grid-like structure being organized into rows and columns (Figs 4A, 4B and 19) that defines a plurality of nodes (the solid dots located on Figs. 4A, 4B and 19) corresponding to said actuating elements, and one or more identifying elements (fuses F1-F13) of said ink jet printhead (col 15, Ins 50-57), wherein said one or more identifying elements of said ink jet printhead correspond to nodes arranged along a given row or column of said grid-like structure (Fig. 19). Bhaskar et al. further at least teaches that the minimum drive voltage may be encoded into the printhead identification

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circuit (col 14, lns 39-40) and that the programmable fuses is either mask programmable, a fusible link or other types of fuses (col 15, lns 55-56).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bhaskar et al. (US 5,635,968) in view of Ujita et al. (US 5,506,611).

Bhaskar et al. discloses the claimed invention, with the exception of wherein the identifying elements are made of a plurality of resistor, each resistor having a resistivity that has been selectively set during a manufacturing process of said ink jet printhead, depending on its characteristics. Ujita et al. at least teaches wherein the identifying elements (medium 19) are made of a plurality of resistor (col 12, lns 24-26), each resistor having a resistivity that has been selectively set during a manufacturing process of said ink jet printhead, depending on its characteristics (col 14, lns 8-12; col 14, ln 66- col 15, ln 16). It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the ink jet art to modify Bhaskar et al. with the medium as taught to be old by Ujita et al. for the purpose of providing a medium with information for controlling the driving conditions of the recording head.

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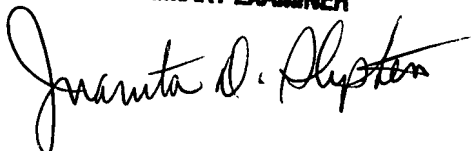
Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Juanita D. Stephens whose telephone number is (571) 272-2153. The examiner can normally be reached on Flex (Monday-Thursday 9:00 am -6:00 pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

**JUANITA D. STEPHENS
PRIMARY EXAMINER**



JDS

July 19, 2007

Juanita D. Stephens
Primary Examiner
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